Appl. No. 10/674,709 Amdt. dated July 27, 2004 Reply to Office Action of April 23, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 is currently pending in the present application. Applicant has canceled claim 1 as set forth above. New claims 41-61 have been added. Support for the new claims may be found through the specification in general and, in particular, at paragraphs [39] to [42] of the specification. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections

Claim 1 has been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being obvious over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,701,170 to Stetson. Claim 1 has also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0069242 to Berns.

In order to further the prosecution of the application, Applicant has cancelled claim 1 without acquiescence and prejudice and has added claims 41-61, as set forth above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

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